

school office for a few minutes. I don't expect to be away long. I'm sure there won't be any trouble. I'm trusting you to work on your assignments while I'm gone."

Fifteen minutes pass, then 20, then 40. Suddenly the teacher returns. Dennis has just thrown an eraser at Carol, who is doing her math. Steven is standing on the teacher's desk making faces. The students carrying out the teacher's instructions are delighted at the teacher's return, but Dennis and Steven wish she hadn't come back at all.

Jesus is coming back! That stands as both a warning and a promise throughout the New Testament, as in today's reading from Luke 12. It's good news or bad, depending on who hears it.

In church we sing songs like "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus." When we partake of the Lord's Supper, we "proclaim the Lord's death till He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26). On Sunday morning, the second coming of Christ sounds like great news. But during the rest of the week, are we as ready for His return?

Jesus is coming back! It may be soon. It will be sudden. Is that good news or bad? It's up to you. —Haddon Robinson

*When Jesus comes to reward His servants,
Whether it be noon or night,
Faithful to Him will He find us watching,
With our lamps all trimmed and bright? —Crosby*

Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. —Matthew 24:42

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Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

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Central Mountains Baptist Church

27 SEPTEMBER, 2009

Information for Visitors.

- * We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.
- * a Cubbies programme is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to Kindy age bracket.**

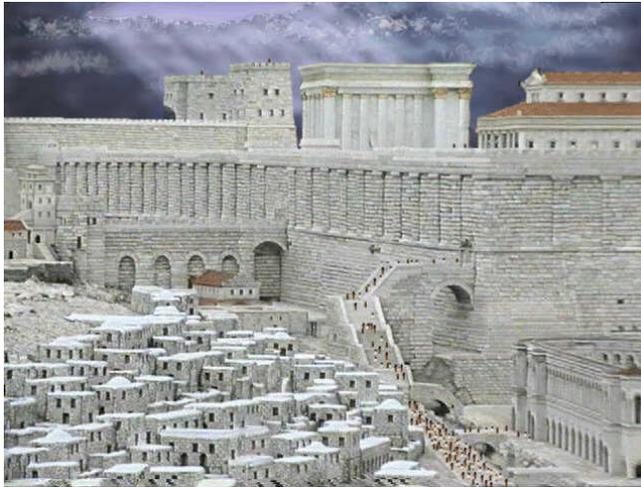
Good News Or Bad?

Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. —Luke 12:37

A teacher tells her young students, "Class, I'm going down the hall to the



The Coming End



(Deuteronomy 28:37) ""And you shall become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all nations where the LORD will drive you."

(Deuteronomy 28:65) ""And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul."



(Deuteronomy 30:1-4) ""Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you, {2} "and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, {3} "that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. {4} "If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you."

(Daniel 11:31) ""And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation."

(Daniel 12:11) ""And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days."

(Daniel 9:24-27) ""Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy. {25} "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. {26} After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. {27} He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."" [NIV]

We will survey three phases of the coming end:

1. The Beginning of _____, Matthew 24:4-14, 36-44

(Luke 21:12) ""But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake."

(1 Thessalonians 5:9) "For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,"

(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. {14} For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. {15} For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. {16} For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. {17} Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. {18} Therefore comfort one another with these words."



2. The _____ of the temple Matthew 24:15

(Luke 21:20) ""But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near."



3. The Great _____, Matthew 24:16-36



(Luke 21:25-26) ""And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; {26} 'men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken."

(Revelation 12:6) "Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days."

(Revelation 11:2) ""...will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months."

(Revelation 13:5) "And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months."